

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 OIC-04 RSR-01 /150 W

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R 150505 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6797

INFO USUN NEW YORK 260

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 1347

E. O. 11652: SGDS-1 1998

TAGS: PFOR, PN, UNSC

SUBJECT: SC MEETING PANAMA

FROM USDEL

1. ON EVE OF OPENING SESSION, CONFUSION LARGELY PREVAILS AMONG SC MEMBERS AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS. LAST CONTINGENT OF PERMREPS, INCLUDING US AMB SCALI, ARRIVED 6:40 P. M. MAR 14.

2. TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE, THERE STILL NO SIGNIFICANT DRAFT RESES CIRCULATING AND NO DRAFT " DECLARATION." WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT OUR OPPOSITION TO DECLARATION, PLUS FRENCH DEMARCH(AND PROBABLY APPEAL OF AVOIDING DIFFICULT CAMPAIGN TO ACHIEVE CONSENSUS ON DRAFT) MAY HAVE PERSUADED PANAMANIAN TO REVERT TO IDEA OF NON- LEGISLATIVE SUMMATION STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY SC PRES BOYD. WE ARE TOLD THAT BOYD SPEAKS OF HAVING DRAFT BUT CLAIMS HE UNWILLING TO REVEAL IT PREMATURELY. OBVIOUSLY, MEDIA IMPACT RANKS IMPORTANTLY IN PANAMANIAN CONSIDERATIONS.

3. PANAMA- PERU " NAME- OF- GAME" PAPER NOW WIDELY ACCEPTED AS ONLY PREPARATORY CONTRIBUTION HOSTS LIKELY TO MAKE TO GIVING FORM AND COHERENCE TO MEETING. SC MEMBERS AND OTHER PROSPECTIVE SPEAKERS REACTING
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VARIOUSLY. WE DO NOT KNOW EXTENT TO WHICH AF' S SOVS , YUGOSLAVS, INDIANS WILL RESPOND TO PAPER' S SPECIFIC SUGGESTION, BUT EXPECT THEM TO ACCORD IT CONSIDERABLE RESPECT. WE EXPECT BRITS, FRENCH, AUSTRALIANS (AND POSSIBLY EVEN AUSTRIANS) TO REACT MORE HELPFULLY. WE HAVE BEEN POINTING OUT TO SELECTED DELEGATIONS PROBLEMS OF PAPER AND STRESSING THAT IT IS BLUEPRINT FOR UNNECESSARILY RANCOROUS MEETING.

4. MOST IMPORTANT UNKNOWN IS WAY LA' S AS COMMUNITY WILL REACT. WHEN AMBASSADOR BENNETT SAW COSTA RICAN FONMIN FACIO AND TOLD HIM OF GAME PLAN PAPER (SIGNIFICIANTLY, COSTA RICANS HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN COPY), FACIO IMMEDIATELY SAW POINT. HE TOLD BENNETT HE WOULD CONSULT COLOBIANS, VENEZUELANS AND PERHAPS OTHERS TO DISCUSS WAYS TO LIMIT DAMAGE TO REGIONAL INTEREST THAT DEBATE ON CUBA AND OTHER ISSUES WOULD CAUSE. SCHAUFEELE SPOKE TO BRAZILIAN DEPERMREP SOUZA E SILVA WHO ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT " GAME PLAN." HE SAID HE HAD NOT EXPECTED TO SPEAK BUT WOULD DO SO IF INSTRUCTED.

5. ALTHOUGH PANAMANIANIANS HAVE SPENT TREMENDOUS ENERGY PREPARING FOR MEETINGS, FIRST DAYS' S PROGRAM STILL UP IN THE AIR. MEETING SCHEDULED TO CONVENE AT 10 A. M. INITIAL SPEAKING SCHEDULE UNCERTAIN, BUT TORRIJOS EXPECTED TO KICK OFF, WITH PROMINENT LA ' S TO FOLLOW. AMBASSADOR SCALI AND DELEGATION MET WITH AMBASSADOR SAYRE, GOVERNOR PARKER AND EMBOFFS EVENING MARCH 14 TO DISCUSS STILL UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS RE CANAL ZONE VISIT.
SAYRE

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